Article from the Shreveport Times - June 5, 2009

State briefs: DEQ: Funds to improve facilities across state

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BATON ROUGE -- The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality said 55 cities, communities and facilities will receive a combined \$43 million in federal economic stimulus money.

DEQ said the money will go toward a variety of improvements to wastewater treatment facilities and systems with 20 percent of the money going to green projects.

Officials say the \$43 million is a small fraction of the \$1.8 billion in requests the department received from 250 applicants.

Of those applications, about \$1 billion was identified as ready to go to construction or contract in the one-year deadline outlined by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the stimulus bill.